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**Vermont Department of Libraries to Hold Press Conference
with Governor Peter Shumlin
Free Early Childhood STEM Literacy at Vermont Libraries**

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Montpelier, Vermont – The [Vermont Department of Libraries](#) has received a National Leadership Grant for Libraries from the Institute of Museum and Library Services to inaugurate the Vermont Early Literacy Initiative in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math in partnership with the [Vermont Center for the Book](#) at [25 rural Vermont libraries](#) for implementation with 3- to 7-year olds, parents, child care providers, and key community stakeholders.

A press conference with Governor Peter Shumlin, State Librarian Martha Reid, and Vermont Center for the Book Associate Director Wendy Martin will be held on Tuesday, January 26, 2016, at 10:30 in Vermont State House Room 11.

The VELI-STEM grant will provide in-depth professional development implementation to librarians for three years. Results of the training will be used to create a replicable national model for rural libraries to systematically deliver effective and sustainable early literacy STEM practices and projects, as well as to create a STEM Clearinghouse of Resources.

Grant reviewers said the project has a high probability of having impact at both the local and national levels and positively noted the support of Governor Peter Shumlin, Senator Patrick Leahy, Senator Bernard Sanders, and Representative Peter Welch.

Please note that parking is limited near the State House when the legislature is in session. Information is available with [directions to the State House](#), the [free Capital Shuttle schedule](#) for parking options besides metered spaces, and a [map of the area around the State House](#). ADA access to the State House is in the rear of the building via Governor Aiken Drive through a secure gate.



This project was made possible in part by the Institute of Museum and Library Services (Leadership Grant LG-80-15-0012-15). The Institute of Museum and Library Services is the primary source of federal support for the nation's 123,000 libraries and 35,000 museums. Its mission is to inspire libraries and museums to advance innovation, lifelong learning, and cultural and civic engagement. Its grant making, policy development, and research help libraries and museums deliver valuable services that make it possible for communities and individuals to thrive. To learn more, visit www.ims.gov.